

**Draft EIR Comment
Proposed Las Pilitas Quarry Project**

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Comments:

My name is Teresa Harback and I am a Santa Margarita resident. I have the following concerns regarding the proposed Las Pilitas Quarry Project.

- 1) The Draft EIR states that the proposed quarry will result in an average of 200 truck trips per day through the rural community of Santa Margarita. My perspective is that this additional traffic will pose safety issues for residents, primarily school age children, crossing Hwy. 58 to access Santa Margarita School. In addition, the truck traffic will add an industrial character to a community that has small restaurants/pubs, a garden center, feed store, and tourist attractions (zip line tours, wine tasting, antique shop). The preservation of a rural character in the Santa Margarita area will continue to benefit the economies of Santa Margarita and San Luis Obispo county.
- 2) In addition to traffic impacts, I am concerned about environmental impacts on noise, air, and water.
 - a) Additional traffic through the town of Santa Margarita and blasting from the proposed mining activities will add an undetermined amount of noise pollution to a rural community. How will this noise impact residents and the local elementary school?
 - b) How will the county address the risk of respiratory ailments to residents, particularly children and the elderly, as a result of blasting, and thus fracturing, crystalline silica (which is commonly associated with Silicosis)? Has a risk assessment on air quality issues been conducted?
 - c) How has the potential water quality impact, due to the proposed mining activities, been specifically addressed? Aggregate washing and dust control for the quarry will require large quantities of water, with an estimate of 20,000 gallons per day just for dust control. How will this water use impact groundwater supplies which support local residents and businesses?

This proposed industrial quarry project does not have a short term life span. The impacts of the quarry on human health, safety, and the rural character of our community could be serious and far reaching. Thank you for considering my comments with regard to the proposed Las Pilitas Quarry Project.

